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Company D, 109th Machine Gun Battalion of the World War

Paper Read Before the
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Lebanon, Pa.

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ABOVE—OVER THE TOP, ADVANCING TO ATTACK
BELOW—MACHINE GUN SECTION—A LULL IN THE BATTLE

FOREWORD

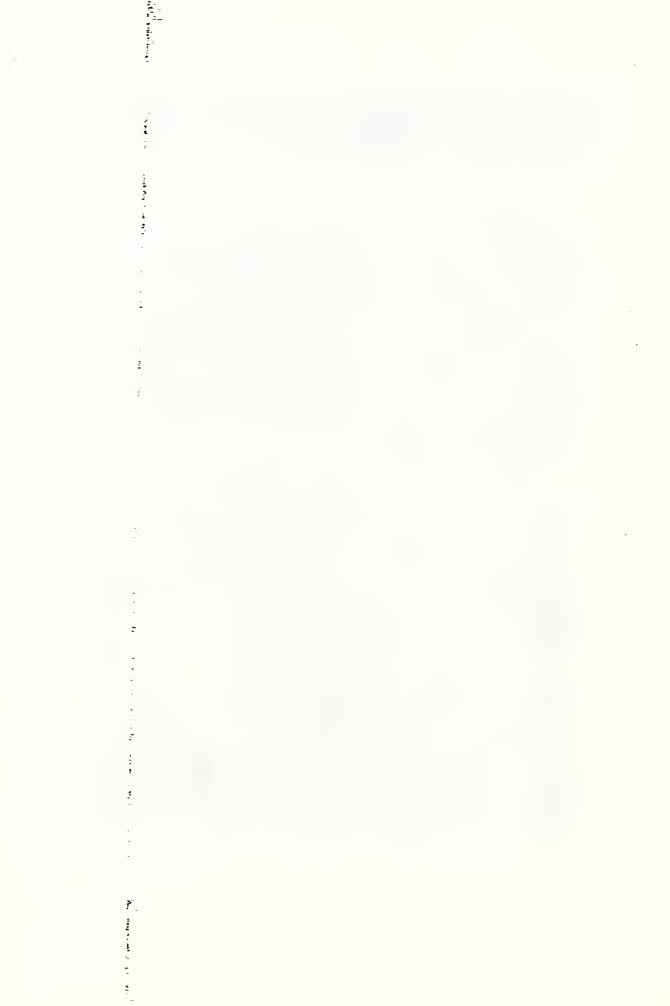
There were many brave men from Lebanon County who served their country overseas during the World War, and who participated in its terrible experiences and sanguinary fighting. There were many others, preparing in cantonments, who were not privileged to take part in such active operations.

Unfortunately, the government saw fit to scatter most of these amongst the various organizations of the army; whereby their identity, as Pennsylvanians from Lebanon County, became lost, and it would seem to be impossible to record an historical narrative of their valuable and patriotic services.

Of all these, however, it so chanced that there were two bodies from our midst who were permitted to retain, largely, their original membership, and who thus became noble representatives of our little county. It also happened that they were ordained to be units in a division (the 28th Pennsylvania—Red Keystone) which covered itself with glory. They were our "boys"; their glory was ours, and their services should ever remain a grand monument to the honor of Lebanon County.

They were Co. D, 109th Machine Gun Battalion, and Co. B, 103d Ammunition Train.

Feeling how unworthy I am for the purpose, yet I have undertaken to write this short history, incomplete and unsatisfactory as it may prove to be, of Co. D, 109th Machine Gun Battalion, trusting that some other pen may give us something to perpetuate the splendid service of the other body.



INTRODUCTORY

When our ancestors came to this country, two centuries ago, from the Palatinate, Germany was not a unified country, but was composed of numerous small kingdoms, principalities, duchys and states.

The terrible Thirty Years War, from 1618 to 1648, had made of it almost a wilderness. Following on its heels were the fearful experiences of 1674 and 1689, when the French ravaged the Palatinate, leaving it practically a barren waste. Then it was our forefathers fled to America for an asylum. They were a peaceful, God-fearing people who sought a liberty which would permit them to live unmolested in their homes, and to worship their Creator according to the dictates of their conscience. As such, they and their descendants have ever been.

Realizing their weakness, from lack of cohesion of their various parts, the German-speaking people of Central Europe longed for some power which might bring them together and make of them a mighty nation. Unfortunately for them, and for the entire world, that power came in the form of Prussia. The Elector of Brandenburg, bearing the family name of Hohenzollern, that of a castle in South Germany, as the champion of the Protestant cause became a leader and then the master of Northern Germany. The "Great Elector", as he was called, formed an admirable army some two hundred years ago; his grandson, Frederick, a still better one, and Frederick the Great (1740-86) did more than this. He codified and gave expression to the Prussian spirit,

which may be briefly and honestly put in the following terms:

"The King of Prussia shall do all that may seem to advantage the Kingdom of Prussia among the nations, notwithstanding any European conventions or any traditions of Christendom, or even any of those wider and more general conventions which govern the international conduct of other Christian peoples."

From that day to the present this selfish policy has been continued. It has never been a matter of right or wrong but merely a question as to how Prussia might be advanced and glorified, irrespective of the effect any such advancement might have upon the welfare of any others of its sister constituent parts. The writer of this remembers well how bitterly the Bavarian troops complained against the Prussians during the Franco-German War of 1870-71.

To still further its ends a deliberate system of education was entered upon whereby the German peoples were taught that they were "supermen", and, as such, entitled to a larger place under the sun, to obtain which they were justified in taking any steps however wrong and contrary to obligations entered into by them and due others.

What kind of fruit has this policy born? The Prussian Government was the first of Napoleon's allies to betray him after the Russians had broken his power (1812); they were present, with decisive effect, at Waterloo (1815), which gave them a standing as a mighty military power; in 1864 they induced Austria to help them in taking from Denmark, a small and weak country, many of its provinces, and, two years later, turned upon their former ally, and defeated her in a very short campaign and insisted upon Austria's relinquishing for the future all claims over any part of the German-speaking peoples save some ten millions in the Valley of the

Middle Danube and of the Upper Elbe. Four years later, in 1870, after various political experiments which resulted in the support of all the German States except Austria, France was invaded and defeated, the Prussian King was crowned as William 1st, Emperor of Germany, and Prussia reigned supreme. From that moment every plan was laid and preparation made for "der Tag" when Germany, as the tool of Prussia, should assert itself as master of the world, trampling under foot all rights of others and ignoring all solemn treaties into which it had entered.

With an army thoroughly trained and fully equipped, surpassing that of any other nation; with a campaign completely mapped out and calculated to bring victory in a few brief months, as promised its people, based, as it was, upon surprise movement and quick action; with everything apparently ready, using Austria as a "cat's paw", to give a reason for its action, on Friday, July 31, 1914, Prussia started the great cataclysm which we now call the World War.

"Man proposes, but God disposes," and very often "the best laid plans of men and mice" go wrong. So it was with Germany. Its policy, by all means, should have been not to antagonize other nations while speedily defeating France and Belgium, after which it would have been in position to attack and overcome, in detail, other powers. Instead of this it was doubtless providential that it should embroil itself, at the outstart, with nations which would otherwise have remained neutral until, in time, it had the whole world against it and defeat was but a matter of months or years.

Its first blunder was when it started to build a great navy, ostensibly to protect its vast mercantile fleet, thus alarming and antagonizing Great Britain, whose safety lay in the possession of a fleet superior to any in existence. Its next blunder was the unwarranted

invasion of Belgium, thus opening up an easy path into France, and with the seaport of Antwerp as an objective, the result of which was a declaration of war on the part of Great Britain. Another blunder was its action in coercing Austria to declare war against Serbia, which led to hostilities with Russia, causing her to become an ally of France and one more enemy with which to contend.

But far and above all these was the great blunder of entering upon a campaign of "frightfulness", in the hope of cowing into inaction the United States, taking it for granted that the people of our country would never consent to permit their government to proclaim hostilities, and sincerely believing that we, as a nation of mere "Shop-Keepers", sought the almighty dollar above all else, and would do nothing to interfere with its acquisition, believing further that, even if we were to declare war, our part in it would be altogether insignificant, and our fighting quality equally so.

Notwithstanding the wrecking of various of our vessels by submarine and torpedo, with accompanying loss of life, and the uncalled-for and horrible sinking of the Lusitania, on May 7, 1915, where more than 1000 innocent lives were sacrificed, of whom 102 were Americans, yet our Government patiently tried every means to avert hostilities, until patience was no longer a virtue when war was declared, on April 6, 1917, at a most critical time for Germany, when the presence of our troops turned to victory a condition of affairs which was tending to disaster for the allies.

Forced back by overwhelming numbers, the 4th and 5th French Armies, with their British contingent, when Belgium was invaded retired across the border until, finally, a strong line of defense was formed around Paris, on September 4, 1914. Here the battle ebbed and flowed for four years, and it was in this locality that our "boys" of Company D had their worst experience.

While it has been felt that this introduction might not be out of place, yet, naturally, it is not intended that it should become a general history of the war, and it is now proposed to enter into some account of what befell our local volunteers, for volunteers they were in every sense, and how nobly they performed their duty. - The reader is requested to consult a map when following the scene and scope of operations.

Co. D, 109th Machine Gun Battalion

Its entry into the service was as Company H. 4th Regt., National Guard of Pennsylvania.

Company H originated from an independent organization known as the Lebanon Rifles, which was composed of the best young men of the city, but was forced to struggle nearly a year before receiving official recognition from the Commonwealth.

Prominent among those who organized the Lebanon Rifles were Lieutenant Colonel Marshall L. Case, Major J. M. Shindel, Mr. Walter Weimer and Lieutenant Harry H. Lineaweaver, who induced Major J. M. Fitzgerald, U. S. A., retired, to accept the Captaincy.

It rapidly became a well-drilled and disciplined organization. During the various years of its existence the company commanders have consisted of Captains Fitzgerald, Marshall L. Case, Shindel, Harry D. Case and Harry H. Barnhart, all officers of unusual ability.

As a company it participated in the Spanish War, in active service in Porto Rico, in command of Captain Marshall L. Case; on duty along the Mexican Border, in 1916, under Captain Harry D. Case; then in the World War under Captain Harry H. Barnhart.

Major Fitzgerald rendered splendid service to his country during the Civil War, and later was a famous Indian fighter in the regular army. He entered the First U. S. Artillery as Corporal of Co. E, on January 5, 1855; artificer in the Ordnance Corps on November 4, 1859;

Hospital Steward March 14, 1861; Second Lieutenant, Ninth U. S. Infantry, June 1, 1863; First Lieutenant March 4, 1864; Captain, December 31, 1873; retired, May 1, 1879; Lieutenant Colonel and Assistant Adjutant General, State of Colorado, June 2, 1881; to November 10, 1883, also Major and Chief Quartermaster on the staff of General A. Jones, and Captain of Co. E, First Regiment in the State Service. He became Captain of Co. H, Fourth Infantry, N. G. P., on July 6, 1896, and Captain Company I, Eleventh Infantry, on July 23, 1898. He resigned June 23, 1899.

Lieutenant Colonel Marshall L. Case assisted in the organization of the Lebanon Rifles, and became First Lieutenant of Company H upon its admission into the National Guard. Captain Fitzgerald having retired because of age limitation, he led the company through the Porto Rican campaign; promoted to Major of the Fourth Regiment, and subsequently to Lieutenant Colonel, he entered into active service as such during the World War, remaining until the regimental organization was broken up.

Major Jay M. Shindel, Judge Advocate of the Fourth Brigade Staff, succeeded in command. He served as its First Lieutenant during the Spanish War, and, though himself seriously ill, did excellent work in caring for the members attacked by camp fever.

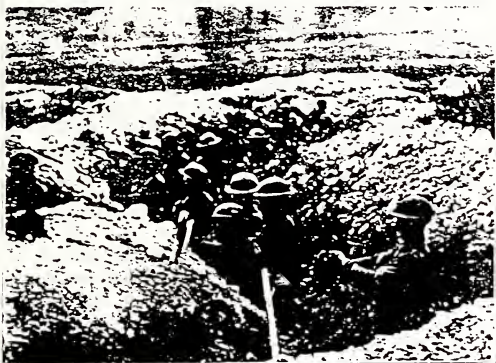
Captain Harry D. Case, who followed, enlisted in Company I, Eleventh Infantry, organized in 1898, as a second call for troops; reenlisted in Company H on January 4, 1899; promoted to Corporal June, 1901; to Sergeant, June, 1903; First Lieutenant, September 23, 1904; Captain, September 23, 1909; commanded company on Mexican Border, 1916; promoted to Major, 1918, and during the World War held that command in the Fourth Pennsylvania Regiment, until transferred to the 107th

Machine Gun Battalion, serving throughout all the actions of the splendid 28th Division.

Captain Harry H. Barnhart, his First Lieutenant, enlisted in the Company on April 23, 1898; and went to Porto Rico with it, but, having contracted typhoid fever, was sent home, where he later served for a period in Company I, Eleventh Regiment; reenlisted in Company H and was made Corporal; promoted to Sergeant January, 1904; Sergeant Major on the Third Brigade Staff, September, 1905; transferred to Division Staff by General Gobin, April 17, 1906, remaining as such under General Wiley until the expiration of his warrant, when he again enlisted in Company H as a private and rose through several grades; Second Lieutenant, September 24, 1909; First Lieutenant, February 14, 1913. He served under Captain Harry D. Case on the Mexican Border, in 1916; and in 1917 became Captain of Company H in the World War, as reorganized into Company D, 109th Machine Gun Battalion; wounded July 23, 1918, by mustard gas and shrapnel.

Lieutenant Victor Garman enlisted in Company H on February 27, 1912, and was advanced to Quartermaster Sergeant on July 2 following. His work in this position was of a nature to meet with the warm approbation of Major Farnsworth, U. S. A. He became Second Lieutenant February 14, 1913, and, as First Lieutenant, was transferred, on August 18, 1917, to Company I, Fourth Regiment, N. G. P., later known as Company D, 150th Machine Gun Battalion, with which he served in the World War, as a part of the famous 42nd (Rainbow) Division.

Amid the cheers and farewells of those gathered to see them off, the members of Company H left Lebanon on September 10, 1917, bound for the training Camp at Augusta, Ga., like many before them who had started



ABOVE AMERICAN NEGRO INFANTRY ADVANCING ALONG
CAMOUFLAGED ROAD. BELOW - A FRONT LINE TRENCH

for other wars with cheerful hearts, little anticipating the experiences which they were to undergo.

Wheelless Station was reached at 1:30 P.M. on September 13, where they detrained and hiked to Camp Hancock.

The 28th Division, which was peculiarly a Pennsylvania and a National Guard Division, was then in process of formation. It was commanded at first by Major General T. C. Clement, of Sunbury, Pa., later succeeded by Major General Charles C. Muir.

Here the company underwent the usual strenuous course provided in the American training camps. After rearrangement they were chosen as a Machine Gun Detachment and underwent intensive training under English instructors. Few actual guns were available, so, in many instances, the men were drilled with wooden guns, the non-commissioned officers alone receiving instruction with real weapons. Conditions were very chaotic during the first few weeks in camp, and it was not known to which outfit the Company would be assigned. On October 9th they were transferred to Company D, 107th Machine Gun Battalion, but, on March 10th, again transferred and became Co. D, 109th Machine Gun Battalion, where they remained.

Then came the monotony of drill and camp life, which did not end until April 30, 1918, when the actual start for the scene of operations began. Camp Hancock was left behind and Camp Upton reached on May 3, which, in turn, was left at 2:30 A.M., on May 6, and the Steamship Aquitania boarded the same day, on board of which they slept that night in harbor, sailing at 6:00 A. M. on May 7th.

The journey across was pleasant and uneventful. An escort of five destroyers was picked up on May 13, and on May 14, a landing made at Liverpool, England, the

dangerous Channel passage being avoided. The men at once entrained and traversed across England, reaching Folkestone, on the southern coast, May 15, and passing through London, but without opportunity to inspect it. During the entire journey they were under strict military restraint. Here they stayed in a big rest camp over night, getting English rations.

May 16, left Folkestone by train and arrived at Dover the same day, where they slept overnight in fort. Rest Camp No. 3, at Dover, was in the South Port. It was a nerve-racking location. The great trans-channel ferry for troops and ammunition ended here and the town was bombed systematically by Zeppelins, aeroplanes and raiding torpedo boats from the German base at Ostend.

The dangerous crossing to Calais was made the next day, escorted by a flotilla of torpedo boats. Here they remained at Rest Camp No. 6 for three days. "It was the dirtiest camp I ever saw," writes Private John W. Feather, of Lebanon, in his diary, from which I am culling many details and desire here to make my sincere acknowledgement of the same. At this place they were subjected to an air raid, but suffered no casualties. Service gas masks were here issued to them.

With regard to this air raid, Sergeant Earl Shilling, of the Reading Company B, 108 M. G. B., writes humorously:

"At the first alarm all the French and English dug for bomb cellars. Our crowd, on the contrary, were so curious over their first sight of an enemy aeroplane that they rushed out into the open and stood gaping at them while the bombs fell. A big English Tommy said, 'My eye! Look at the blooming Sammies standing out in an air raid. They wont last far at that gait!'"

To understand the status of affairs at this period, we must recall that when, in the early part of the war,

the French had been driven back near Paris their line of defense was formed, largely, on the River Marne. Here great battles were fought, and the Germans forced back somewhat. Now the time had arrived when it became a matter of life or death to the enemy for them to gain the victory before the Americans should arrive in force. A supreme effort was made by them and a terrible conflict ensued, raging from Verdun, on the east, to Meaux, near Paris, on the west, with Chateau Thierry adjacent to it on the east, some twenty miles distant, as the key to the situation. It was here that our troops, at great sacrifice, saved the day. The Germans retreating, a new line of battle was formed along the River Vesle, with Fismes, almost midway between Rheims and Soissons, the main point of attack. At this place and Fismettes, across the river, the carnage was awful, the best shock troops, including the famous Prussian Guards, being hurled, time after time, against it, and it was our 23th Division which successfully withstood the attack, at a fearful loss. This was the beginning of the end. The enemy never recovered from this defeat.

The movements of Co. D which now follow were all with a view to placing them in position for the operations which have been briefly mentioned above. It had been the intention of the General Staff to leave the Division in the training area for a longer period, but the exigency of the time was so great and the situation had become so critical, that it was necessary to throw all available troops into the line.

On May 20 the Company marched to the train and rode to Lumbnes, then marched about three miles to trucks. Rode to Le Wast. They were then furnished with the Vickers gun, of English pattern, and given overseas training under English and Scotch instructors.

Marched all day on June 9, and all day, in the rain,

on the 10th, camping in a field at Senlis, near the large town of Fruges.

June 11—Still hiking. Awful hot. Camped in field at Warren.

June 13—Packed train with rations. Ready to move.

June 14—Got on train of box cars at 5.00 A.M. These were the classic cars marked, "Hommes quarante, chevaux huit" (Forty men, eight horses). Stopped for dinner. Got hot tea from "Chinks". Were just starting to feed when the train pulled out, leaving one hundred and two men at the station.

June 16—Got off train at Esbly and hiked to trucks. Rode to Trembly and hiked back five kilo. to Roissy. Camped in woods. Are only 21 kilo. from Paris. The Eiffel Tower can be seen on a clear day. Long range French guns are firing over our heads. Several aviation fields close by. Can see some fancy flying:

Here Hotchkiss Machine Guns were issued, and, for the first time, the boys beheld the flashes on the northern horizon and heard the rumble of heavy artillery at the front. During the night they were awakened by the distant wails of sirens, and the thunder of a barrage of seventy-fives, so continuous as to suggest the rattle of a machine gun. Many of the companies at this time received a severe training under French instructors, concerning which one of the boys wrote:

"The Frogs were willing-enough, but for the life of us we couldn't understand them. . . Every day we can hear overhead the sound of the big shells which the Germans are sending into Paris from some point sixty miles away."

The Division was now in the rear Marne area directly back of Chateau Thierry. It was the eve of the despairing and gigantic thrust which the Germans were

to make in July. Let us now continue our extracts from ~~Private John W. Feather's diary~~ giving detailed movements to date.

June 18—Had an air raid close to our camp.

June 19—Received their first pay on the other side in French money.

June 20—Rode on trucks about 60 kilo. to Launois (a kilometer is $\frac{5}{8}$ of a mile). Cooked own meals for several days.

June 23—Hiked to woods above Marne river, near city.

June 24—Took a swim in Marne. We are within shell-fire range.

June 25—We saw an aeroplane fall near the camp. Pilot was from Philadelphia. He was hit while over the Boche lines, and returned to our lines before coming down. He was badly hurt, but from later reports he is recovering.

June 26—Hiked back to Arly Morin.

June 27—Hiked to Maitrone. Camped in orchard.

June 28—Hiked to Grand Foret. Had our pistols issued, .45 Colt automatic. Took a swim in the big lake in the woods.

June 30—Hiked back to Boitrone in dark.

July 4—Started hiking at 1.30 A.M. Went to Grand Foret again. Some shells landed along the edge of woods. Getting ready for action. I went on scouting expedition under Sergeant McAdams. Locating machine gun positions.

July 8—Moved up on line in the dark. Mounted guns in good position. Lieut. Wootten hurt. Getting a few shells once in a while.

July 15—Allies started big drive. We are preparing to move forward.

As if it were to celebrate the great French National Holiday, July 14th, commemorating the Fall of the Bastille prison, on July 15th the Germans began the fifth and disastrous last phase of the offensive which they started in the Spring, on March 21. The day of the 14th was long and tense. Occasionally a star shell flared up in the sky or a gun sounded from the farther shore of the Marne where the foe was completing his preparation. Finally, at 11.30 at night, came a ripping roar from miles of French batteries in the rear, and at 12:30 the great German offensive began, which the war correspondent of the *Berlin Lokal Anzeiger* described as "unparalleled and appalling." Gas came pouring in, and masks were never gotten off the whole night. It was necessary to keep rubbing the guns constantly, as the mustard gas was eating away the wood and metal.

How the Germans attacked with one hundred and seventy thousand men; how they swarmed across the Marne; how the four companies of Pennsylvania National Guard in the front line were cut to pieces, and how the attack was finally stemmed, does not belong to our narrative. This was but the beginning for Company D. Let us resume the diary.

July 14—Heavy shelling. Our company was under shell fire twelve hours. Wore gas masks about five hours of that time. Had several casualties. None killed.

July 18—Moved out at 6.00 A.M. Hiked to place near Viffort. Billeted in big barn. Drilled from 10.00 P.M. to 1.00 A.M.

Here the shattered companies of the Division were reformed and the depleted ranks filled with newcomers, good soldiers, but very few of them Pennsylvanians.

HIKING TO THE FRONT



"The hitherto untrained American troops," wrote the acute military observer of the London Tribune, concerning the 28th Division, "fought like veterans. Their officers showed unwonted aptitude and military skill."

With the Germans in full retreat our diary continues:

July 20—Rode on trucks to Charly.

July 21—Hiked from Charly thru Rominey and arrived at Chateau Thierry at night on July 22. We were separated from the rest of the battalion and stopped on road near the outskirts of the town. Capt. Barnhart, Lieut. Fenstermacher, Russell Bentz and I went ahead to look for place to camp for the night. Were near the village of Brussels when we were cut off from the company by enemy barrage. I got back through it with orders for Lieut. Howell, but learned that he was hurt and sent to the hospital. Captain and rest were out all night.

July 23—Moved up to big German dug-out. Slept there over night.

July 24—Joined rest of battalion in village of Brasles. Built dugouts and moved out before we could use them. Hiked rest of night.

July 25—Hiked through Chateau Thierry again. Captain Barnhart was suffering from a shrapnel wound and gas burns, and was then forced to drop out here.

July 26—Hiked to woods very close to lines. During night Boche advanced on both sides of us, and we were nearly surrounded. Very few men knew it until the danger was over.

July 27—We withdrew to woods several kilo. from line. Met Philip Melching and Bleistine, formerly of our company. Now they are in the Rainbow Division.

July 28—Got paid 104 F. Had some rifles issued to men. Hiked that night and nearly all of next day to woods above Arges. Living in Boche dugouts. Had signal school two days.

Aug. 1—Hiked from 6.00 P.M. to 8.00 A.M. in rain. Camped in field. Many dead Boche all around.

Aug. 2—Started forward again in afternoon. Returned part of the distance and camped in small woods.

Aug. 3—Hiked up to woods near Chery. Lieut. Wootten returned to company.

Aug. 4—Moved up very close to lines during night.

Aug. 5—Mounted guns on top of hill above Fismes. Boche are in one part of town, our troops are in other part. I was sent in the town to locate infantry lines with Walter Deitzler, and we nearly walked into Boche lines before we were stopped by an outpost. Our Company fired barrage at 6.45 P.M. Geo. Clarke and I were with the infantry commander during the advance. Under heavy shell fire all the time. Plenty of gas. Returned to company late at night. We had some very close calls.

Aug. 6—Company moved into Fismes. Took position on Main street. Some guns mounted in the upper rooms of houses to fire across Vesle River.

Aug. 7—Heavy shelling going on all the time, several casualties. Lieut. Howell wounded.

Aug. 8—Boche made counter attack. Many of our boys wounded. During night I was sent back to battalion headquarters, and got some gas on the way. Delivered the message and was sent back to hospital. Stayed there until Aug. 10. I returned to company.

Aug. 9—Lieut. Ströhl was killed by shell.

Aug. 10—Sergeants Bechtel and Bollman killed.

Many others wounded and some gassed. Lieut. McNeal took out platoon across the Vesle River into Fismette on front line.

Aug. 12—George McKinney, Sam Cufley and I recovered Sergeant Bechtel's body from bridge and buried him aside of Lieut. Strohl and Wolfe.

Aug. 13—Plenty of action across river. Several counter attacks were repulsed.

Aug. 15—Withdrew guns and men from Fismette. Went back to Dravegny for rest.

Aug. 17—Moved up to Death Valley on reserve line.

Aug. 18—Changed positions. Dug gun emplacements, made dug-outs being shelled all the time. Got paid 103 F.

Aug. 30—Moved up to Fismes again, company headquarters in big cave, getting one meal a day.

Sept. 4—Moved back to place called "F Bend".

Sept. 6—Moved up on reserve line between St. Gilles and Courville.

Sept. 8—Had an air raid.

Sept. 9—Battalion relieved, moved back to F Bend.

The American troops covered themselves with glory at many points in the Allied drive, but notably so in the battle at Fismes, when that German base was captured. The fighting was said to have been the most bitter of the whole war, the Prussian Guards asking no quarter and being bayoneted or clubbed to death as they stood by their machine guns.

The 28th Division were then regarded as seasoned troops who had well won their name of "The Iron Division". The exhausted 32nd and Rainbow Divisions had been withdrawn from the front line and the Pennsyl-

vanians put in their places. It was at Fismes that the kings of France were wont to rest for the night, when on their way to be crowned in the neighboring cathedral of Rheims. It was an important railroad junction on the line from Rheims to Soissons, and one of the largest German munition depots in the sector. The railroad embankment was, for a time, the barrier between the contending forces, the Germans burrowing into the north side and the Pennsylvanians into the south slope, and throwing hand grenades, even stones, at each other over the high emplacement. The valley back of the Vesle was the "Death Valley", which was to cost the division so dearly.

The infantry had fought unremittingly, day and night, for nearly sixty days, and the artillery for over a month. Even the taciturn French General Mangin, usually so sparing in his praise, was moved to cite the heroic division.

"I am proud," wrote he, "to have commanded you during such days and to have fought with you for a deliverance of the world."

This marked the conclusion of the participation by the 28th Division as part of a French Corps. The new American Army was now organized and henceforth it was to fight under American command. The plan of the General Staff had been to give the worn division a rest, but the crowding events which accompanied the great American advance of September, 1918, made this impossible. The division was held in reserve at Loopy-le-Chateau, in the back of the St. Mihiel area, where they remained in readiness on the glorious day of September 12th, when their comrades launched such a grand and successful attack in that salient, but were not needed. Scarcely had the rejoicing over this event subsided when the Divisional Commander received orders, on the night

of September 15th, to proceed, by stiff night marches, northward toward the forest of Argonne.

By the 17th they were directly in the celebrated Argonne Forest. The signs of a major operation were everywhere and the men noted with pride that, for the first time, they were to fight with a purely American Army.

At eleven o'clock, on the night of September 25th, far away to the east, sounded the booming of a signal gun. Immediately there began the crash of the famous "Million Dollar Barrage", of which so much has been written. On a flaming front of fifty-four miles, from St. Mihiel to the Champagne, over three thousand guns were bombarding with the intensity of drum fire. When the infantry advanced through the fog, at half-past five in the morning, the first line of German trenches had been literally pulverized.

Passing through the wrecked historic town of Varennes the machine guns made ready to assist the infantry attack on Montblainville, which strongly-fortified hamlet fell the next day. By September 29th the celebrated town of Apremont was taken, after a terrible struggle.

The next objective was the little town of Chateaui-Chierry. All the intense firing from Apremont, after September 29th, was preparatory to the infantry attack upon that place and the ridge to its north.

The attack occurred early in the morning of October 7th, preceded by a heavy barrage. A terrific struggle ensued. To reach the village it was necessary to recross the Aire, which, though narrow, was quite deep at this point. This accomplished, the enemy was found strongly fortified in the houses and narrow streets, and fought desperately. The streets soon presented a scene of horrible havoc and carnage. Through all this, Company D made their way to their objective, Hill 244.

For thirteen days the men had undergone most arduous fighting against some of the best troops in the German army. Their losses had been severe, and it was now deemed absolutely necessary that the division be moved temporarily into a rest area.

Resuming our extracts from Private Feather's diary, we quote his modest account of the above experiences.

Sept. 10—Started hiking at 5:00 A.M. Stopped at Dravegny for our breakfast. Hiked all day. Passed Lieut. Roosevelt's Grave. Arrived at Jaulgonne in heavy rain. Slept in deserted houses over night.

Sept. 11—Hiked from 6:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. in heavy rain. Went through Dormans and camped in big woods. Got paid 103F.

Sept. 12—Hiked to trucks and rode all night to Cheminon. Slept in good billets.

Sept. 14—Drilled in morning. Living on iron rations, hard tack and corn whey.

Sept. 16—We drilled all day. Left Cheminon at 9:00 P.M. and hiked until 5:30 A.M. Slept in woods near Laheycourt all day.

Sept. 17—Hiked to Futeau in the heavy rain. We slept in woods, rest of battalion in billets.

Sept. 18—Hiked to La Nou Four at night in rain.

Sept. 19—I was sent to battalion headquarters as runner.

Sept. 22—Moved up nearer the lines. Preparations being made for big drive.

Sept. 25—Company relieved the French machine gun company and mounted guns during night.

Sept. 26—Drive started at 2:30 A.M. Peterson killed in first few minutes of firing. We were in it for

thirteen days and were in some very dangerous places. Our division advanced slowly through Varennes, Montblainville, Apremont and Chatel Chierri, and reached their objective, Hill 244, Oct. 7. We were under machine gun, sniper and shell fire all the time.

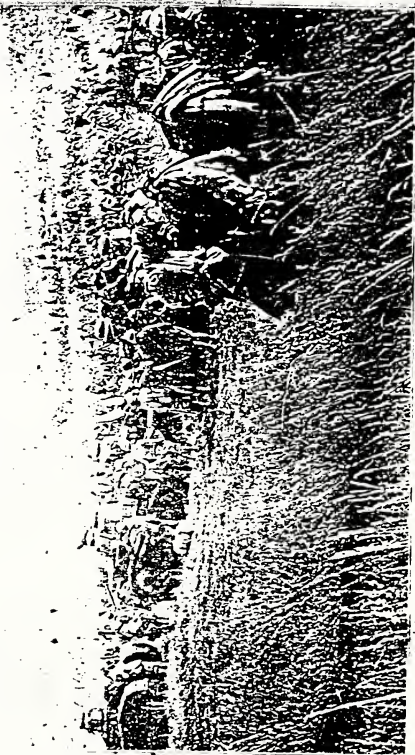
Oct. 8—Earl Hartman was hit and died the next day.

Oct. 9—We were relieved and battalion was assembled preparatory to going to rear.

Events were now reaching a point when it was apparent that the great struggle was nearing its end, and that Germany was a vanquished power. The next objective was the capture of the great stronghold of Metz, the scene of the surrender, on October 27, 1870, of Marshal Bazaine, with his 176,000 men, to the German Prince Frederick Charles. It was surely fitting that the fortunes of war should be now reversed.

With its portion of the division, and now as a part of the newly-formed Second American Army, our Company D was assigned to the Thiacourt sector, in front of Metz, with Divisional Headquarters at Houdicourt. These troops were intended to execute an encircling move and to have enveloped the defenses of Metz for the first great invasion of German territory. The sector was taken over on October 16th.

A major attack, on the same gigantic scale as those of St. Mihiel and the Argonne, was in preparation to be launched about the middle of November. More or less firing was going on continually. Three gun sections of Company D were advanced to position on the outposts on November 10th, and when the morning of the 10th came all were nerved for the anticipated attack, when the announcement was received that it had been called off. Shortly after crowds of Boche were running over to the American lines, between the mine fields, with their hands up and yelling like mad. They were crazy for



WHEN THE ARMISTICE WAS DECLARED, NOVEMBER 11, 1918.

cigarettes and chocolate. After an hour they were chased back to their own positions, where all night they kept singing and burning bonfires.

The Armistice had been signed, and, for all practical purposes, the war was over.

Our diary concludes with these entries:

Oct. 10—Hiked all day until we found trucks to take us to Cornieville. Arrived there in the morning. Lived on hard tack and corn willie.

Oct. 15—Hiked all night in rain through Enville and Vignot.

Oct. 16—Hiked from Vignot through Gironville, Bouconville, Essey, Pannes and Beney in mud and rain. Company on line in Dampvitoux woods. Very little firing here so far.

Oct. 5—Got paid 101F.

Oct. 26—I was sent to Liaison School. Rode on trucks to aviation field near Toul.

Nov. 1—Returned to Company. This was a quiet sector once, but is not now.

Nov. 10—Three gun sections commanded by Lieut. Hunter advanced with an infantry attack and stayed in positions on line of outposts. I was sent out to locate them and was caught in heavy German barrage.

Nov. 11—Orders came to Company headquarters that all firing was to stop at 11:00 A.M. It was 9:00 A.M. when I started for the advanced lines. After telling Lieut. Hunter I started back across an open field and got lost in a heavy fog. I had to stay there until the firing ceased and it cleared up a little before I returned to the Company. Seemed strange that everything was quiet.

Nov. 12—Moved back at night. Made long hike

through Beneq, Pannes, Monsard, Heudicourt, Buxieres, Buxehuelles, and stopped at Woinville.

Nov. 13—Moved up hill to old German billets.

Nov. 18—Hiked back to Woinville. Was billeted in good rooms. Company went out on salvage work for two days:

Nov. 21—Got paid 100F.

Nov. 22—Left on furlough and arrived at Le Mont Dore on November 24th.

In concluding his diary, the author says to his father, former Squire James B. Feather, "I think this is enough for this time, so I will close for today. Try to figure out how many miles I traveled since I left home."

Le Mont Dore is up in the mountains and a beautiful section of France. From its streets can be seen the snow-covered mountains.

From Woinville the Company moved, on November 24th, to Jouy-les-Cotes, remaining there until January 6, 1919. They were then transferred to Barisey-au-Plaine, leaving there March 19th for the Forwarding Camp, Embarkation Area, at Le Mans, thence, April 14th, to St. Nazaire, sailing from there April 18th on the S. S. Kroonland, reaching New York April 29th, when ordered to Camp Dix, N. J.

On May 6th, an enormous crowd welcomed back to Lebanon the survivors of those who had so bravely left on September 10, 1917, little thinking of the harrowing experiences which lay before them.

IRON DIVISION AMONG THE BEST AS FIGHTERS

Our Brave Soldier Boys From This City Are With Them
—Lauded by Commander

Official confirmation has been given to the statement so often made with deep pride in soldiers' letters that the 28th, or Iron Division, formerly the National Guard of Pennsylvania, to which Company H, now Company D, 109th Machine Gun Battalion, of this city, is attached, has distinguished itself as one of the best divisions in the army.

There has been no disposition anywhere to doubt the statements of the soldiers themselves, and, as a matter of fact, events of the war have borne out the assertions, the division having consistently gone forward at every point where it has been engaged.

But it is a cause for satisfaction and a glowing pride to know that so exalted a personage as the divisional commander, Major General Charles H. Muir, himself a regular army man, not a Pennsylvanian, and with no particular "local pride" in the State to start with, now proudly accords the former Guardsmen their due as being in "the very front ranks of fighting American divisions."

General Muir's citation, just received by cable in this country, is not the customary address to the troops designed primarily to build up their morale and exhorting them to carry on even better than before. It is a simple and frank acknowledgment that they have won their spurs.

The statement, issued by Lieutenant Colonel Walter

C. Sweeney, chief of staff, by command of General Muir, is as follows:

"The division commander desires to express his appreciation to all the officers and soldiers of the 23th Divisions and of its attached units, who, at all times during the advance in the valley of the Aire and in the Argonne forest, in spite of their many hardships and constant personal danger, gave their best efforts to further the success of the division.

"As a result of this operation, which extended from 5:30 o'clock on the morning of September 26 until the night of October 8, with almost continuous fighting, the enemy line was forced back more than ten kilometers.

"In spite of the most stubborn and at times desperate resistance, the enemy was driven out of Grand Boureuilles, Petit Boureuilles, Varennes, Montblainville, Apremont, Pleinchamp Farm, Leforge and Chatel Chierry and the strongholds on Hills 223, 244 and Lachenetendu were captured in the face of strong machine gun and artillery fire.

"As a new division on the Vesle River, north of Chateau-Thierry, the Twenty-eighth was cited in orders from general headquarters for its excellent service, and the splendid work it has just completed assures it a place in the very front ranks of fighting American divisions.

"With such a position to maintain, it is expected that every man will devote his best effort to the work at hand to hasten that final victory which is now so near."

—Lebanon Evening Report, Oct. 29, 1918.

ROSTER CO. D, 109th MACHINE-GUN BATTALION

28th (Iron) Division (formerly Co. H, 4th Penna. Infantry) in the World War 1914-1918.

COMPANY HISTORY

Called into Federal Service, July 15, 1917.

In training at Camp Hancock, Ga., September, 1917-April, 1918.

Mustered out of Federal Service May, 1919.

Engaged in the following major operations:

Sector southeast of Chateau-Thierry, June 30-July 15, 1918.

Champagne-Marne Defensive, July 15-18, 1918.

Aisne-Marne Offensive, July 18-31, 1918.

Oise-Aisne Offensive, Aug. 18-Sept. 8, 1918.

Meuse-Argonne Offensive, Sept. 26-Oct. 9, 1918.

Thiaucourt Sector, Oct. 16-Nov. 11, 1918.

HONOR ROLL

Captains

*Harry H. Barnhart
Howard Boltz

1st Lieutenants

Victor Garman
Herbert Roberts
Edgar Zeller

2nd Lieutenants

Henry W. Billman
Louis J. Lewis
Amos C. Byle
William F. Turner
Elliott V. Nagle
Frank H. Reinoehl

Sergeant Major

George M. Henry

1st Sergeants

Charles E. Kirkwood
Claude H. Kreiser
*Russell J. Shuey

Supply Sergeants

†William H. Bollman, Jr.
Paul F. Swope

Mess Sergeant

Robert H. Clemens

Stable Sergeants

Landis B. Bachman
Paul U. Rutter

Sergeants

Stephen R. Steeley
John A. Kline
Philip H. Melching
Hain F. Tobias
*Nelson W. Moyer
*Richard G. Bechtel
Roy J. Gannon
Sterling E. Ulrich
*Daniel J. P. Yeingst
John R. Wahl
*Russell Allwein
Walter F. McAdam
Howard W. Altemus
Claffin L. Bowman
Charles J. Davis
William G. Harbach
Norman L. Streicher
Russell R. Shott
*George T. Tucker
Clarence H. Smith

Corporals

Frank A. Sherman
*Herman D. Walmer
Leroy Gettle
John L. Gambler
*Francis Schies
Frank Drews
Victor I. Miller
Gottlieb Krause
*William H. Carmany

-Howard Ford

*Donald C. Olt

Robert L. Seltzer

*Charles B. Zimmerman

Carroll Allwein

*Oscar A. Aurentz

Earl E. Berry

*Earl R. Gensler

*Joseph F. Grumbein

Warren F. Kone

Joseph W. Klopp

Oliver H. Patrick

George S. Snyder

Mechanics

Norton C. Reed

*George M. Weaver

William M. Althouse

Ray R. Feeser

Allen G. Spotts

Watson H. Reich

Cooks

Prove Weidle

*Cyrus A. Beamesderfer

Josiah B. Double

Herbert W. Shay

Joseph H. Mease

Musicians

Thomas Barry

Ammon Brown

Privates, First Class

Adam M. Arnold

Raymond J. Arnold

James B. Brandt

Clifford L. Brown

Paul Buchter

†Harry E. Demmy

Levi F. Eckert

*John B. Gerlach

Simon R. Kreiser

John D. Landis

Joseph A. Leib

*Frank J. McGill

John H. Matthews

Levi T. Mease

Marlin V. Reed

Jeremiah P. Smith

Horace L. Smith

*William H. Allwein

*Russell A. Bentz

*Robert M. Bollman

*George W. Clark

Samuel Chadwick

William V. Dissinger

Ralph G. Donmoyer

*Harry F. Elliot

Allen J. Gebhard

†Earl F. Gannon

*Paul J. Holland

John M. Hershley

*Philip Miller

*James McGowan

George T. McKinney

Harry M. Peiffer

*Raymond J. Talbot

*George Stoever

Frank A. Uhler

Charles P. Wagner

John K. Weise

*John W. Feather

Elias A. Weinhold

Privates

Raphael M. Arnold

Robert J. Arnold	Miles F. Long
George A. Aurentz	*Frank J. Long
Jacob Althouse	*Frederick Lauer
*George Althouse	Eugene Lowe
Paul Batdorf	*Charles Lengle
John P. Batdorf	† Emery K. Miller
Ned Beck	*Lee F. Mills
Earl V. Bentz	*William O'Donnell
Charles Bechtel	Robert H. Putt
*Carroll Brightbill	Edward Reich
*James A. Beicher	*Stanford H. Rhoads
John F. Bleistein	Paul B. Smith
Sharpless W. Crowe	*George W. Slike
Charles M. Clawson	Robert J. Sholly
*Harry Daub	*John D. Swope
*Walter E. Dietzler	*James Stoever
Charles D. Early	Harvey B. Smith
† Paul H. Fisher	Herbert A. Strohman
† Earl W. Hartman	Harry R. Seabold
*Harry E. Heiser	*Raymond R. Shilling
Wallace Hicks	*Ralph N. Y. Snader
David B. Hunsicker	Samuel M. Uhrich
Frank I. Houtz	Tolbert Underkuffler
Herbert L. Haulman	Clayton R. Walters
Harvey J. Knapp	Howard N. White
Roy J. Keath	
John L. Lane	

† Killed

* Wounded

ROLL OF LEBANON COUNTY'S HERO DEAD IN WORLD WAR

It is altogether fitting that the people of Lebanon County, in showing their appreciation of the services rendered by our heroic soldiers, sailors and nurses and thanksgiving over their safe return home, should not forget those who paid with their lives their devotion to Liberty and Democracy.

That Lebanon County gave of her best sons in full measure is attested by the following list of her hero dead:

- Henry C. Arndt, Palmyra, killed in action.
- John C. Beard, Cornwall, killed in action.
- Joseph Boyer, West Lebanon, died of disease.
- Richard Bechtel, Lebanon, killed in action.
- Wm. H. Bollman, Jr., Lebanon, killed in action.
- Martin Babb, Lebanon, killed in action.
- Martin Brandt, Lebanon, killed in action.
- Raymond Brough, Lebanon, killed in action.
- George Burger, Lebanon, died of disease.
- Joseph Betz, Lebanon, died of wounds.
- Ralph Challenger, Lebanon, killed in action.
- Joseph T. Conner, Annville, killed in action.
- Robert G. Deemer, Lebanon, killed in action.
- Amos E. Deiter, Lebanon, killed in action.
- Harry E. Demmy, Lebanon, died of wounds.
- Grant Dissinger, Rexmont, killed in action.
- Morris Drye, Lebanon, killed in action.
- Wm. I. Fasnacht, Lebanon, killed in action.
- Paul H. Fisher, Lebanon, killed in action.

John E. Frantz, Lebanon, killed in action.
Robert H. Fields, Lebanon, killed in action.
Earl F. Gannon, Lebanon, died of wounds.
Irwin Gible, Palmyra, died of disease.
Thomas Gerberich, Jonestown, died of disease.
John Garity, Lebanon, killed in action.
H. M. Harbach, Lebanon, died of disease.
Alfred H. Heisey, Lebanon, killed in action.
Earl W. Hartman, Annville, died of wounds.
Ralph A. Haag, Myerstown, killed in action.
Wm. H. Kroh, Lebanon, died of disease.
E. H. Kreider, Lebanon, killed in action.
John Kutchever, Lebanon, killed in action.
Ray G. Kreider, Lebanon, died of disease.
Peter Lengle, Palmyra, killed in action.
Max F. Lehman, Annville, killed in action.
Charles Lorah, Lebanon, killed in action.
Wm. G. Line, Myerstown, died of disease.
Horace Layser, Richland, killed in action.
Geo. Mock, Schaefferstown, killed in action.
P. V. Mease, Lebanon, killed in action.
August J. Michael, Lebanon, killed in action.
Sydney G. Meyers, Myerstown, killed in action.
Thepphil Namec, Lebanon, killed in action.
Edward O'Laughlin, Lebanon, killed in action.
Moses Ober, Lebanon, killed in action.
Harison B. Quigley, Palmyra, killed in action.
Geo. R. Pretz, Lebanon, died of disease.
Forney Parker, Lebanon, died of disease.
P. H. Peiffer, Lebanon, died of disease.
John Peiffer, Myerstown, died of disease.
Charles Potteiger, Lebanon, died of disease.

Joseph Ream, Lebanon, killed in action.
Levi Rutter, Newmanstown, died of disease.
Geo. H. Raiger, Lebanon, killed in action.
Wm. J. Rabel, Lebanon, died of wounds.
Paul E. Ross, Lebanon, died of disease.
Allen D. Smith, Lebanon, died of disease.
C. D. Sigsbee, Lebanon, died of disease.
J. Oscar Stoeber, Lebanon, killed in action.
Howard W. Shue, Schaefferstown, died of wounds.
Walter Shuey, Lebanon, died of disease.
Ira J. Sheiner, Myerstown, died of disease.
Frederick H. Showers, Lebanon, killed in action.
John W. Sholly, Lebanon, killed in action.
John Schaeffer, Lebanon, died of disease.
Daniel Stover, Mt. Zion, killed in action.
Ira-Urich, Myerstown, died of disease.
Ralph Umberger, Bethel, died of wounds.
Marcel M. Von Bereghy, Lebanon, died of wounds.
David M. Vogt, Lebanon, killed in action.
M. C. Weierbach, Lebanon, killed in action.
Jno. E. Walborn, Lebanon, killed in action.
Henry Welker, Myerstown, died of disease.
Charles A. Yingst, Lebanon, died of disease.
Harry O. Zimmerman, Palmyra, died of disease.
Jeremiah Zerbe, South Lebanon, killed in action.

In addition to the names just given, the following have been secured, but the writer of this greatly regrets that he is unable to give their residence, nor to state in what way they so nobly gave their lives for the cause of eventual liberty in the world.

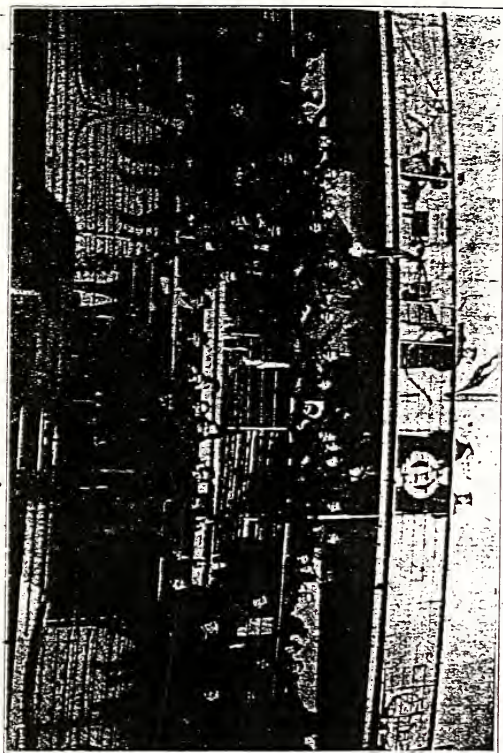
1916 - 1923

James H. Allwein	John C. Mock
Harry E. Bachman	Morris E. Nafzinger
Oscar M. Beck	Ray Peters
John Bender	John Posey
J. C. Borgner	LeRoy Pyers
Harry G. Bomberger	Harry R. Reinhard
Joseph K. Buchter	————— Roebuck
Frank Deiter	Melvin A. Rohrbaugh
Milton Dissinger	Robert C. Shultz
John Gassert	Ralph M. Snyder
Richard Gassert	Paul W. Steiner
Walter H. Gingrich	J. M. Strickler
Thomas Goshert	Paul S. Smith
————— Hainley	Samuel Smith
Harry Himmelberger	Benjamin True
Paul Kirchoff	John R. Witmer
Frank A. Killian	Robert M. Wolfe
Eugene R. Kreider	Elmer E. Woomer
Harrison Moyer	Nevin C. Young
Albert Miller	Adolph Yost

On the Mexican Border—1916

Percy Eisenhauer

George Fisher



HOME, AGAIN

ROSTER OF LEBANON COMPANY UPON RETURN
FROM FRANCE AS COMPANY D, 109TH
MACHINE GUN BATTALION

Officers

Captain Charles D. Lewis, Lakewood, Ohio.
First Lieutenant Lawrence D. Howell, Hawleyville, Conn.
First Lieutenant Arthur Hunter, Reading, Pa.
First Lieutenant James E. Linck, Nashville, Tenn.
Second Lieutenant Henry W. Billman, Lebanon.

Sergeants

First Sergt. Russell J. Shuey, Lebanon.
First Sergt. Claude H. Kreiser, Lebanon.
Supply Sergeant, Roy J. Gannon, Lebanon.
Mess Sergt. Robert Clemens, West Lebanon.
Stable Sergt. Paul Rutter, Independent Borough.
Range-finder Sergt. Walter F. McAdam, Lebanon.

Duty Sergeants

John R. Wahl, Lebanon.
Clafin L. Bowman, Myerstown.
George T. Tucker, Lebanon.
Norman L. Streicher, Annville.
Augustus C. Stailey, Harrisburg
Russel C. Allwein, Lebanon.
Howard Altemos, Lebanon.
Nelson W. Moyer, Lebanon
Charles J. Davis, Lebanon
Charles E. Kirkwood, Lebanon
John A. Kline, Lebanon.

Corporals

Signal Corporal Charles Zimmermann, Lebanon.
Corp. and Comp. Clerk Joseph F. Grumbine, Ind. Boro.

Duty Corporals

Robert Seltzer, Lebanon
Earl E. Berry, Annville.
Donald L. Olt, Lebanon.
Carroll Allwein, Independent Boro.
John E. Phelps, South Bethlehem.
Earl R. Gensler, Independent Boro.
Frank L. Gipple, Harrisburg.
William Carmany, Lebanon.
George S. Snyder, Lebanon.
George Curloy, Carlisle.
George H. Panzer, So. Langhorne, Pa.
Herman D. Walmer, Lebanon.

Artisans

Horseshoer, W. H. Reich, Lebanon.
Mechanic, R. R. Feeser, Lebanon.
Mechanic, A. G. Spotts, Lebanon.
Mechanic, G. L. Weaver, Lebanon.
Cook, Prove Weidle, Lebanon.
Cook, Josiah B. Douple, Lebanon.
Cook, Cy. A. Beamesderfer, Lebanon.
Saddler, Wm. M. Althouse, Lebanon.

Buglers

Ammon Brown, Lebanon Thomas F. Barry, Lebanon.

First Class Privates

Raymond J. Arnold, Lebanon.
Adam M. Arnold, West-Lebanon.
Robert M. Bollman, Lebanon.
Clifford Brown, Lebanon.
James S. Brandt, Lebanon.
Samuel Chadwick, Lebanon.
George S. Clark, Lebanon.
Ralph Donmoyer, Inwood, Pa.
Harry F. Elliott, Lebanon.
John W. Feather, Lebanon.

~~Horace Gladfelter, Harrisburg.~~

Leo Gruber, Harrisburg.

John H. Matthews, Lebanon.

George T. McKinney, Lebanon.

Philip J. Miller, Lebanon.

Harry Peiffer, Lebanon.

Horace Smith, Lebanon.

Raymond Talbott, Lebanon.

Frank Uhler, Lebanon.

Charles P. Wagner, Lebanon.

Elias Weinhold, Lebanon.

John C. Weise, Lebanon.

Edward Wendal, Harrisburg.

Privates

George Althouse, Avon.

Jacob Althouse, Avon.

Raphael Arnold, R.F.D., Lebanon.

Wm. E. Ambrose, Hultington, Pa.

Axel S. Anderson, Worcester, Mass.

Guiseppe Anorato, New York City.

Landis Bachman, Schaefferstown.

Ned Beck, Lebanon.

Earl V. Bentz, Lebanon.

James Beicher, Lebanon.

Carroll Brightbill, Lebanon.

Paul Buchter, Lebanon.

Harry Chubb, Harrisburg.

Charles Clawson, Lebanon.

Jeremiah Crowley, S. Boston, Mass.

Alde Conti, New Britain, Conn.

Samuel Curley, Steelton, Pa.

Ed. E. Davey, N. Attleboro, Mass.

Harry Daub, Lebanon.

Walter Deitzler, Lebanon.

Michael DeBella, New York City.

Jerome Deruytter, Moline, Ill.

George Dexter, Brooklyn, N. Y.

William V. Dissinger, Lebanon.
T. A. Dowd, Winthrop, Suffolk, Mass.
Frank Drews, Lebanon.
George D. Eisenberger, Enola, Pa.
Howard Ford, Lebanon.
John L. Gambler, Lebanon.
Frederick Gansz, Bronx, N. Y. City.
Leo Al. Galonska, Chicago, Ill.
John B. Gerlach, Lebanon.
Walter W. Gray, Star Brick, Pa.
Charles B. Gross, New York City.
William Gunderson, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Bennie Haglund, Maple Plain, Minn.
John L. Hanley, New York City.
George E. Havey, Sherborn, Mass.
Harry E. Heiser, Lebanon.
Paul J. Holland, Lebanon.
Frank I. Houtz, Lebanon.
Samuel Jacobus, New York.
H. Johnson, Iron Mountain, Mich.
Joseph Johnson, Joy, Ill.
Charles Keffer, Harrisburg.
George L. Kennedy, Harrisburg.
Rudolph Ketterman, York, Pa.
George A. Kevil, New York City.
Ed. G. Kiely, Marblehead, Mass.
Johnnie T. Kirk, Anding, Miss.
Al. A. Kreutzler, Springfield, Mass.
Adrian C. Koreman, Albany, N. Y.
James M. Kurtz, Homestead, Pa.
John D. Landis, Schaefferstown.
M. P. Lange, Chippewa Falls, Wis.
Hans P. Larson, St. Paul, Minn.
Millard W. Leshner, Middletown, Pa.
A. Levenstien, New York City.
Leon L. Levy, New York City.
Manuel R. Lewis, Taunton, Mass.

Sven W. Lind, Dorchester, Mass.
Carl J. Lind, Attleboro, Mass.
Miles F. Long, Lebanon.
Frank J. Long, Onset.
Eugene N. Lowe, Lebanon.
Sam Makary, New York City.
Henry R. Malone, Southwark, Mass.
Mich. J. Manghise, New York City.
Thomas P. Manning, Louisville, Ky.
T. A. Manning, Providence, R. I.
Guiseppe Martino, New York City.
Wilfred C. Mathieu, Taunton, Mass.
Hugh Menzies, Everett, Mass.
Alva Merritt, Thurston, Ky.
Emery K. Miller, Schaefferstown.
W. H. Mitchell, Ogdensburg, N. Y.
James L. McAvoy, Buffalo, N. Y.
E. McDowell, Chippewa Falls, Wis.
Luigi Molanari, New York City.
Clyde Moorehead, Friendship, Ark.
James Muldoon, S. Boston, Mass.
John Mulherin, Jr., Augusta, Ga.
M. V. Murphy, East Dedham, Mass.
Wilbur L. Myers, West York, Pa.
Frank Nardiello, Brooklyn, N. Y.
E. L. Newberger, Herman, Minn.
Anthony Panepinto, New York City.
C. J. Pasquini, Springfield, Mass.
S. H. Pepper, Allentown, Pa.
F. Portigioni, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Lindsey Price, New Haven, Ky.
Robert H. Putt, Lebanon.
Roy T. Reed, Meadville, Pa.
Marlin V. Reed, Lebanon.
Stanford H. Rhoades, Lebanon.
George T. Rice, Brooklyn, N. Y.
H. Robbenbaum, Limestone, N. Y.

Francis Schies, Lebanon.
Harry Seabold, Lebanon.
Frank A. Sherman, Myerstown.
Robert J. Sholley, Campbelltown.
George W. Slike, Lebanon.
Philip S. Sloane, Manomomie, Wis.
Jeremiah P. Smith, Lebanon.
Ralph Snader, Lebanon.
Kenneth K. Sigworth, Warren, Pa.
Rudolph Stachelin, New York City.
Earl H. Steel, Huntingdon, Pa.
Paul F. Swope, Lebanon.
John D. Swope, Lebanon.
George F. Taggart, Harrisburg.
Hain F. Tobias, Lebanon.
Archibald Tormey, New York City.
John J. Triest, Harrisburg.
Walter Trill Hassa, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Samuel Uhrich, Lebanon.
John Turner, Fall River, Mass.
V. Van Wonterghen, Moline, Ill.
Harry C. Wagner, Philadelphia.
Clayton R. Walter, Annville.
Andrew Whyte, Lynn, Mass.
Melvin H. Wilt, McConnelstown, Pa.
Herbert R. Williams, Corydon, Pa.
Frank J. Worster, Norwood, Mass.
Raymond Nash, S. Bethlehem, Pa.
William O'Donnell, Lebanon.

RECORD OF CASUALTIES AND STATIONS

Company D, 109th Machine Gun Battalion,
American Expeditionary Forces

Killed in Action

Strohl, Howard L., 2nd Lieut.—Shrapnel—Aug. 9, 1918.
Bollman, William A., Sup. Sgt.—Shrapnel—Aug. 9, 1918.
Bechtel, Richard, G., Sergt.—Bullet—Aug. 10, 1918.
Peterson, Otto, Pvt.—Bullet—Sept. 9, 1918.

Wounded and Died in Hospital

Demmy, Harry E., Pvt.—Bullet—Aug. 14, 1918.
Diffenderfer, Allen, Pvt.—Shrapnel—Aug. 28, 1918.
Gannon, Earl, Pvt.—Gas (Mus.)—Aug. 8, 1918.
Hartman, Earl, Pvt.—Bullet—Oct. 8, 1918.

Fifth German Offensive—July 14th to 27th, Inc.

This Company participated in the above offensive from the beginning, and was constantly under heavy shell fire, both gas and shrapnel. The following casualties were reported:

Howell, Laurence D., Lieut.—Kicked by horse—July 22, 1918.
Barnhart, Harry H., Capt.—Gas (Mus.)—July 23, 1918.
Kurtz, James M., Pvt.—Shrapnel—July 14, 1918.

Advance on Ourcq and Vesle Rivers—July 28-Sept. 7, Inc.

Participated in the advance and went into action at Fismes and Fismettes, August 8th, 1918. During the entire time in action from August 8th to 13th, were under constant enemy fire of H E, gas and shrapnel shells. We also suffered from machine gun and sniper fire. Liquid fire throwers and one pounders of the enemy

were also active. The casualties reported are as follows:

Killed

Strohl, Howard L., 2nd Lieut.—Shrapnel—Aug. 9, 1918.
Bollman, William A., Q. M. Sergt.—Shrapnel—Aug. 9, 1918.

Bechtel, Richard G., Sergt.—Bullet—Aug. 10, 1918.

Severely Wounded

Howell, Lawrence D., 1st Lieut.—Shrapnel—Aug. 7, 1918.
Demmy, Harry E., Pvt. 1st Cl.—Bullet—Aug. 14, 1918.
Dieffenderfer, Allen, Pvt.—Shrapnel—Aug. 28, 1918.
Hamman, Clarence, Pvt.—Gassed—Aug. 10, 1918.
Moyer, Nelson, Sergt.—Shrapnel—Aug. 8, 1918.
Nash, Raymond, Pvt.—Shrapnel—Aug. 12, 1918.
Simmons, William, Pvt.—Shrapnel—Aug. 18, 1918.
Clark, George, Pvt. 1st Cl.—Shrapnel—Aug. 10, 1918.
Stoever, George, Pvt. 1st Cl.—Shrapnel—Aug. 18, 1918.
Bollman, Robert, Pvt. 1st Cl.—Shrapnel—Aug. 11, 1918.
Stoever, James, Pvt.—Shrapnel—Aug. 8, 1918.
Walmer, Herman D., Corp.—Bullet—Aug. 11, 1918.
Shuey, Russel, Sergt.—Shrapnel—Aug. 10, 1918.
Steel, Raymond, Pvt.—Shrapnel—Aug. 11, 1918.
Talbot, Raymond, Pvt.—Shell Shock—Aug. 9, 1918.
Tucker, George, Corp.—Shrapnel—Aug. 8, 1918.
Weaver, George, Mec.—Shell Shock—Aug. 11, 1918.
Zimmerman, Charles, Corp.—Gas Burns—Aug. 8, 1918.
Yeingst, Daniel J. P., Sergt.—Gas and S. S.—Aug. 10, 1918.

Missing in Action and Later Reported Wounded

Heilman, Arnold S., Pvt.—Shrapnel—Aug. 13, 1918.
Smith, Edwin S., Pvt.—Shrapnel—Aug. 13, 1918.
Swope, John D., Pvt.—Shrapnel—Aug. 22, 1918.

Meuse-Argonne Offensive—Sept. 26th to Oct. 9th

Participated in the offensive throughout and suffered most from machine gun and snipers' bullets, but

were always under heavy shelling by the enemy. The casualties suffered are listed below.

Killed

Peterson, Otto, Pvt.—Bullet—Sept. 9, 1918.

Severely Wounded

Aurentz, Oscar, Corp.—Bullets—Oct. 8, 1918.

Bentz, Russel, Pvt. 1st Cl.—Shrapnel—Oct. 6, 1918.

Cusick, Francis, Pvt.—Bullet—Oct. 8, 1918.

Hartman, Earl, Pvt.—Bullet—Oct. 8, 1918.

Less, James, Pvt.—Bullet—Oct. 8, 1918.

McGowan, James, Pvt. 1st Cl.—Shrapnel—Oct. 6, 1918.

Slightly Wounded

Elliott, Harry, Pvt. 1st Cl.—Bullet—Oct. 8, 1918.

Shies, Francis, Corp.—Shell Shock—Oct. 5, 1918.

Thiacourt Sector—Oct. 15th to Nov. 11th, Inc.

From the beginning we were constantly harrassed by enemy machine gun and sniper fire. Heavy gas and high explosives were met with, but only slight casual was reported.

Miller, Philip, Pvt. 1st Cl.—Gassed—Nov. 1, 1923.

Slightly Wounded

Althouse, George, Pvt.—Gassed—Aug. 7, 1918.

Allwein, William, Pvt. 1st Cl.—Shell Shock—Aug. 10, 1918.

Ailwein, Russell, Sergt.—Shrapnel—Aug. 10, 1918.

Ambrose, William, Pvt.—Shell Shock—Aug. 10, 1918.

Baird, Mahlon E., Pvt.—Shell Shock—Aug. 11, 1918.

Beicher, James, Pvt.—Gas Burns—Aug. 8, 1918.

Brightbill, Carroll, Pvt.—Shell Shock—Aug. 10, 1918.

Carmany, William, Corp.—Shell Shock, Aug. 10, 1918.

Chubb, Harry, Pvt.—Shell Shock—Aug. 11, 1918.

Daub, Harry, Pvt.—Gas and S. S.—Aug. 11, 1918.

Deitzler, Walter, Pvt.—Shell Shock—Aug. 11, 1918.

Eisenberger, Geo. D., Pvt.—Gassed—Aug. 12, 1918.

Feather, John, Pvt. 1st Cl.—Gassed—Aug. 8, 1918.

Gannon, Earl, Pvt. 1st Cl.—Gas Burns—Aug. 8, 1918.

Gettle, LeRoy, Pvt.—Shell Shock—Aug. 10, 1918.
Gensler, Earl, Corp.—Gas and S. S.—Aug. 10, 1918.
Gerlach, John, Pvt. 1st Cl.—Shell Shock—Aug. 11, 1918.
Grumbein, Joseph, Corp.—Shell Shock—Aug. 10, 1918.
Gruber, Leo, Pvt. 1st Cl.—Gas Burns—Aug. 8, 1918.
Heisey, Harry E., Pvt.—Shell Shock—Aug. 11, 1918.
Holland, Paul, Pvt. 1st Cl.—Grenade—Aug. 11, 1918.
Kennedy, George, Pvt.—Gas and S.S. Aug. 10, 1918.
Lauer, Frederick, Pvt.—Shrapnel—Aug. 10, 1918.
Lengle, Charles, Pvt.—Shrapnel—Aug. 12, 1918.
Leshner, Millard, Pvt.—Shell Shock—Aug. 9, 1918.
Lea, Frank, Pvt.—Shrapnel—Aug. 8, 1918.
Long, Frank, Pvt. 1st Cl.—Gas Burns—Aug. 8, 1918.
Milburn, Allie, Pvt.—Gassed—Aug. 7, 1918.
Miller, Philip, Pvt.—Bullet—Aug. 10, 1918.
Miller, Martin, Pvt.—Gas Burns—Aug. 8, 1918.
Moorhean, Clyde, Pvt.—Shrapnel—Aug. 9, 1918.
Myers, Wilbur, Pvt.—Shell Shock—Aug. 11, 1918.
McGill, Frank, Pvt. 1st Cl.—Gas and S.S.—Aug. 11, 1918.
O'Donnell, William, Pvt.—Gas Burns—Aug. 8, 1918.
Olt, Donald L., Corp.—Shrapnel—Aug. 10, 1918.
Payne, Roy E., Pvt.—Gassed—Aug. 21, 1918.
Price, Lindsley, Pvt.—Shell Shock—Aug. 9, 1918.
Rankin, Grover C., Pvt.—Gassed—Aug. 11, 1918.
Rataigan, William, Pvt.—Shell Shock—Aug. 11, 1918.
Rhoads, Frank, Pvt.—Gassed—Aug. 15, 1918.
Rhoads, Stanford, Pvt.—Shell Shock—Aug. 8, 1918.
Richmond, Eugene, Pvt.—Shell Shock—Aug. 10, 1918.
Shilling, Raymond, Pvt.—Shrapnel—Aug. 8, 1918.
Sheaf, Raymond, Pvt.—Shell Shock—Aug. 10, 1918.
Simmons, Milton, Pvt.—Bullet—Aug. 11, 1918.
Slike, George, Pvt.—Shell Shock—Aug. 10, 1918.
Snader, Ralph, Pvt.—Shell Shock—Aug. 10, 1918.

Station List of Unit Since Arrival in A. E. F.

Co. D, 109th Machine Gun Battalion

On "Acquitania", at Liverpool, England

Arrived—England, May 14, 1918; France, May 17, 1918.

Left	Station	Arrived
May 14, 1918	Liverpool, Eng.	May 14, 1918
May 16, 1918	Folkstone, Eng.	May 15, 1918
May 17, 1918	Dover, Eng.	May 16, 1918
May 20, 1918	Calais, France	May 17, 1918
June 9, 1918	Le Waast, France	May 20, 1918
June 10, 1918	Vims	June 9, 1918
June 11, 1918	Fruges	June 10, 1918
June 13, 1918	Wavron	June 11, 1918
June 15, 1918	Selines	June 14, 1918
June 23, 1918	Roissy	June 15, 1918
June 29, 1918	Lenoy	June 23, 1918
July 1, 1918	La Mone	June 29, 1918
July 2, 1918	Orly	July 1, 1918
July 4, 1918	Boitron	July 2, 1918
July 4, 1918	La Chapelle	July 4, 1918
July 5, 1918	Grand Foret	July 4, 1918
July 5, 1918	Boitron	July 5, 1918
July 8, 1918	Grand Foret	July 6, 1918
July 17, 1918	La Chapelle	July 8, 1918
July 20, 1918	Le Maison Rouge	July 17, 1918
July 21, 1918	Charley	July 20, 1918
July 23, 1918	Chateau Thierry	July 22, 1918
July 24, 1918	Etripilly	July 24, 1918
July 25, 1918	Courtail	July 24, 1918
July 28, 1918	Trugny Woods	July 25, 1918
Aug. 4, 1918	Vente-Jean-Grullaum-Foret	July 28, 1918
Aug. 5, 1918	Party Farm	Aug. 4, 1918
Aug. 6, 1918	Party Farm Woods	Aug. 5, 1918
Aug. 7, 1918	La Bolanes	Aug. 6, 1918
Aug. 14, 1918	Fismes	Aug. 7, 1918

Aug. 25, 1918	Dravegny	Aug. 14, 1918
Aug. 27, 1918	St. Gilles	Aug. 25, 1918
Sept. 2, 1918	Fismes	Aug. 27, 1918
Sept. 6, 1918	Chery-Chartruve	Sept. 2, 1918
Sept. 8, 1918	St. Gilles	Sept. 6, 1918
Sept. 9, 1918	Chery-Chartruve	Sept. 8, 1918
Sept. 10, 1918	Barcy-sur-Marne	Sept. 9, 1918
Sept. 12, 1918	Bois-de-Bonis-Ault	Sept. 10, 1918
Sept. 16, 1918	Cheminon Le Ville	Sept. 13, 1918
Sept. 17, 1918	Foret de Belnuncie	Sept. 17, 1918
Sept. 18, 1918	Futeau	Sept. 18, 1918
Sept. 21, 1918	Le Neufour	Sept. 19, 1918
	Reserve Line (Argonne	
Sept. 25, 1918	Front)	Sept. 22, 1918
	Front Line (Argonne	
Oct. 9, 1918	Front)	Sept. 25, 1918
Oct. 10, 1918	Pont-A-L-Aune	Oct. 9, 1918
Oct. 15, 1918	Corneville	Oct. 11, 1918
Oct. 16, 1918	Euville	Oct. 16, 1918
Nov. 12, 1918	St. Bendit	Oct. 17, 1918
	Camp St. Christopher	
Nov. 18, 1918	(Near Woinville)	Nov. 12, 1918
Nov. 24, 1918	Woinville	Nov. 18, 1918
Jan. 6, 1919	Jouy-les-Cotes	Nov. 24, 1918
Mar. 19, 1919	Barisey-au-Plaine	Jan. 8, 1919
Apr. 14, 1919	Le Mans (Emb. Area)	Mar. 21, 1919
	(Forwarding Camp)	
Apr. 18, 1919	St. Nazaire (Emb. Port)	Apr. 15, 1919
	Sailed on U. S. S. Kroonland	
Apr. 29, 1919	New York, U. S. A.	Apr. 29, 1919
	Camp Dix, N.J.	Apr. 29, 1919
Arrived—Lebanon, May 6, 1919.		

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